

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRASIL 02393 291253Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-06 SP-02

SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 EUR-12 IO-13 PA-02

PRS-01 NSF-02 /136 W

-----292250Z 024061 /41

R 291200Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0779

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USERDA HQ WASHDC

UNCLAS BRASILIA 2393

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG TECH BR

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR POLICY - VIEW OF BRAZILIAN SOCIETY OF PHYSICS (SBF)

1. SUMMARY: SBF HAS ISSUED ITS OWN "WHITE PAPER" ON NUCLEAR POLICY WHICH MAKES FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. BRAZILIAN PHYSICISTS HAVE ALWAYS FAVORED POWER REACTORS BASED ON NATURAL URANIUM.

B. SBF HAS BEEN SKEPTICAL OF VIABILITY OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER UNDER GOB/FRG NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, ESPECIALLY TRANSFER OF ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGY.

C. SBF HAS BEEN DOING ITS OWN STUDIES OF HUMAN RESOURCES, ENERGY ALTERNATIVES, PROTOTYPE BRAZILIAN POWER REACTOR, AND ENVIRONMENTAL/SAFETY PROBLEMS OF NUCLEAR PLANTS.

D. ALTHOUGH STRONGLY OPPOSED TO MILITARY USE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, SBF FEELS THAT NON-PROLIFERATION IS PRIMARILY A PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES (NWS), RATHER THAN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND URGES GOB TO INSIST ON CONCRETE NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT STEPS BY NWS

AS CONDITION FOR ACCEPTING ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BRASIL 02393 291253Z

ON BRAZILIAN PROGRAM.

E. SBF CONSIDERS THAT GOB STILL RETAINS OPTION FOR MODEST, PRUDENT PROGRAM OF INDEPENDENT NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. SBF (APPROXIMATELY 2,000 MEMBERS; PRESIDENT IS PROF. JOSE GOLDEMBERG, DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS,

UNIV. OF SAO PAULO) ISSUED NUCLEAR POLICY DOCUMENT WHICH WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED AND DISCUSSED AT ALL BRAZILIAN CENTERS FOR PHYSICS AND TO REPRESENT CONSENSUS OF PHYSICS COMMUNITY. (COMMENT: SBF HAS TENDED TO BE SPOKESMAN FOR ENTIRE NON-GOVERNMENTAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMUNITY ON NUCLEAR ISSUES).

3. DOCUMENT WAS ISSUED TO RE-AFFIRM SBF POSITION TO PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT QUOTE IN VIEW OF GROWING DIFFICULTIES WHICH IMPLEMENTATION OF GOB/FRG NUCLEAR AGREEMENT IS ENCOUNTERING UNQUOTE AND MAKES FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. HISTORICAL POSITION FOR OVER DECADE OF BRAZILIAN PHYSICISTS HAS BEEN IN FAVOR OF NATURAL URANIUM REACTORS, WHICH ALLOW GREATER NATIONAL NUCLEAR INDEPENDENCE, AND CRITICAL OF SELECTION BY GOVERNMENT OF ENRICHED URANIUM POWER PLANTS.

B. SBF HAS MAINTAINED POSITION CRITICAL OF VIABILITY OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, PARTICULARLY ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGY, THROUGH GOB/FRG NUCLEAR AGREEMENT AND PASSED MOTION TO THIS EFFECT AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN JULY, 1975.

C. SBF ESTABLISHED SEVERAL SPECIAL COMMISSIONS TO EXPLORE IN GREATER DEPTH ASPECTS OF GOB/FRG NUCLEAR AGREEMENT. FIRST OF THESE DEALT WITH PROBLEMS OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND PARTICIPATION OF PHYSICISTS IN NUCLEAR PROGRAMS. ITS REPORT HAD GREAT INFLUENCE ON GOVERNMENT NUCLEAR TRAINING PROGRAM. SBF IS NOW FORMING COMMISSIONS ON ALTERNATIVES FOR SOLUTION OF BRAZILIAN ENERGY PROBLEM, ON VIABILITY OF BRAZILIAN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF PROTOTYPE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BRASIL 02393 291253Z

POWER REACTOR NATURAL URANIUM TYPE) AND ON POLLUTION AND SAFETY PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS.
D. IN RESPONSE TO INTERNATIONAL IMPEDIMENTS TO TRANSFER OF FULL FUEL CYCLE TO BRAZIL, SBF REITERATES ITS POSITION AGAINST MILITARY USE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. REJECTING INTERFERENCE OF NUCLEAR POWERS IN BRAZIL'S AFFAIRS, SBF ASSERTS THAT PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS NOT PRIMARILY PROBLEM OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BUT RATHER OF NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES (NWS) WHOSE ARSENALS THREATEN HUMANITY. GOB SHOULD REQUIRE CONCRETE/NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT STEPS BY NWS AS CONDITION FOR ANY FURTHER RESTRICTION ON BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM.
E. SBF CONSIDERS THAT OPTION FOR MODEST, PRUDENT, INDEPENDENT NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM IS STILL OPEN TO BRAZIL. ENERGY CONSERVATION PLUES UNUTILIZED HYDRO RESOURCES WOULD GUARANTEE TIME NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT INDEPENDENT PROGRAM. PUBLIC DEBATE OVER BRAZIL'S ENERGY OPTIONS, WITH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF ENTIRE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY, SHOULD

PRECEDE MOBILIZATION OF NATIONAL EFFORTS IN THIS AREA.

4. ACCOMPANYING STATEMENT, GOLDEMBERG REFUTED
SMALL GROUP OF BRAZILIAN SCIENTIFIC CRITICS OF NUCLEAR
POWER, ASSERTING NUCLEAR POWER HAD DEFINITE ROLE AS
SUPPLEMENTARY ENERGY SOURCE IN BRAZIL AND WAS MORE
ECONOMICAL THAN ALL OTHERS EXCEPT HYDRO. HE URGED STUDIES
IN DEPTH OF UTIL FION OF SMALLER HYDRO SOURCES REMAINING
IN SOUTHERN BRAZIL AND OF TECHNICAL SOLUTION FOR LONG
DISTANCE POWER TRANSMISSION TO UTILIZE HYDRO RESOURCES
IN NORTHERN BRAZIL. GOLDERMBERG REGARDS NUCLEAR WASTE
PROBLEM AS SERIOUS BUT NOT ALARMING OR UNSOLVABLE.

5. NUCLEBRAS REPORTEDLY STATED IT PLANS TO IGNORE SBF "WHITE PAPER",
AND ASSERT GOB NUCLEAR DECISIONS ARE FROZEN AND IRREFUTABLE.
CRIMMINS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRASIL02393
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770108-0034
Format: TEL
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770313/aaaaakqh.tel
Line Count: 131
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 514fa1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2969854
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NUCLEAR POLICY - VIEW OF BRAZILIAN SOCIETY OF PHYSICS (SBF)
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, BR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/514fa1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009